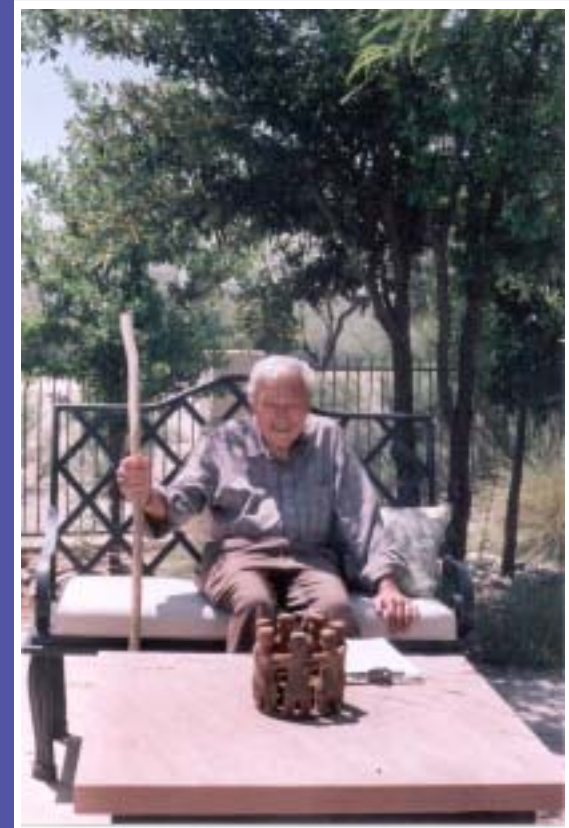




Those who dwell among
the beauties and
mysteries of the earth are
never alone...

Rachel Carson

Xeriscape Contest Awards Ceremony



WARREN N JONES

"Lifetime Achievement Award"

May 13, 2004

"To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a little better; whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the meaning of success." -

[Ralph Waldo Emerson](#)



Warren Jones Lifetime Achievement Award



Warren Jones, FASLA, educated two generations of landscape architects at the University of Arizona, before his promotion to Professor Emeritus. Warren currently serves on the advisory board of the Boyce Thompson Southwest Arboretum in Superior, Arizona, and as a consultant in arid regions throughout the world. He is also a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects and a recipient of the Lifetime Award given by the U of A.

Warren Jones is the co-author of *Plants for Dry Climates*, 1998 and *Landscape Plants for Dry Regions*, 2000 and was featured in the March 2004 issue of *Phoenix Home & Garden Magazine*, as one of 10 Masters of the Southwest.

To honor his legacy, the Arizona Nursery Association has named a fund in Warren Jones' name which is presented yearly to a landscape architecture student pursuing their degree from an Arizona institution.

Testimonials

Libby Davison- Warren has been an inspiration to me ever since I met him caring for seedlings at the Campbell Avenue Farm in the mid 1980s. He is an energetic guy, a wealth of knowledge, and the reason why living and gardening in the Southwest is so much fun!

Bill Havens - Warren, I am so pleased to hear that you are receiving a 'Lifetime Achievement Award' for your work not only in the desert southwest, but also in California, Mexico, and the Middle East. Your achievements are of great significance: you have influenced hundreds of students, homeowners, developers, public officials and planning and design professionals about living in a desert environment in a responsible way.

Through teaching, writing, advising, and speaking, you have generated a legacy. I am aware of how many former students admire and love you. They practice throughout the world. As a teacher, you shared knowledge with consideration, respect, and kindness. You are one of the most positive persons I know. One great strength is your openness to new experiences. You taught by example.

Another part of that legacy is evidenced through your books. They, too, have influenced generations of students, homeowners, and professionals - in fact, anyone wishing to learn and know about plants appropriate to the southwest.

The University of Arizona campus has benefitted from your work; it, too, is a legacy which will endure on the campus forever. Your trips to the Middle East and to Mexico to secure new plants for introduction to the campus and to the desert southwest have provided the public with so many new species.

Your public service has been outstanding: the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Sunset

Magazine, and countless talks and lectures to a variety of public officials and private citizens groups.

Your work resulted in recognition at the national level by the American Society of Landscape Architects, where you received the honor of being named a Fellow of the Society.

On a lighter note, I recall those years of 'wash parties' which you hosted for students, faculty, and alumni. It was always held in the big wash near your home. Carol was so gracious about the parties. I know they were a lot of work for the two of you. Thank you for caring so much about the students and alumni.

Again, congratulations on this award, as you have earned the recognition. ..your colleague and friend.

Jack Kelly - I first met Warren Jones in 1983 when I accepted a job as Horticulturist in Kuwait. Warren met me and another UA alum and spent most of the afternoon showing the incredible array of plants that he collected and planted on campus. I had never met Warren before, but he is the type person that after meeting him, you felt that you'd known him for years.

Aside from his knowledge of each and every plant, he had anecdotal comments that made the plant tour special. He is an incredible person; without him we would not have the plants on campus that we do, the campus would not be an Arboretum and the concept of Xeriscape using unusual xeric plants would not have been accepted by most of the general public. In the 80's the Xeriscape palette was *Pennestemum setaceum*, *Yucca pendula*, some native cactus and the occasional skeleton cow's head, and lots and lots of gravel in white, green and grey. Thanks to Warren, we have a palette that rivals any where in the world! I am very happy to know Warren.

Janet Rademacher - How can I capture the essence of Warren Jones in a few short phrases? Passionate about plants, landscape design, and his profession. Humble and good-humored, and rarely seen without a big smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. Adventurous in travel and ideas; always open to new experiences.

Dedicated to causes and institutions he feels strongly about, such as the Boyce Thompson Arboretum and the University of Arizona Arboretum. A lesson to all of us in living long and well. Thank you Warren for teaching, leading and inspiring your many proteges!

Greg Starr - I have 3 short stories to share. They all took place during a trip to Texas in 1980.

One of my stories about Warren involves an incident while we were on a collecting trip. The participants involved were Bill Kinneson, Warren, Carol Starr, and Greg Starr. We were on a collecting trip into Texas, and decided to stop along the roadside and check out an area. We pulled off the road, and were crawling through some fencing onto some ranch land. We stood up just inside the fence and the property owner decided to fire some gunshots over our heads to clear us off of his land. It was at that point that Warren being the leader of the trip decided we had better leave that particular spot.

Warren also had some of the best luck with collecting material to test. On the same trip, we found some nice specimens of *Cordia boissieri* with a bunch of seedlings growing under them. Warren decided we ought to dig some up and see if they would transplant. They sat in a cooler for 5 or 6 days before we got back to Tucson and potted them up. Lo and behold, they all survived and ended up getting planted out around the UA campus.

My final story is another one that occurred during that same trip. We stopped in Langtry at the Judge Roy Bean Botanical Garden and saw a beautiful specimen of *Porlieria angustifolia* (now listed as *Guaiaacum angustifolium*). There was seed all over the ground under the plant, so Warren, Bill, and I dropped to our knees and started picking seed. We didn't know that one of the workers came up behind us, until he asked what we were doing. Well, I think we all three jumped about 10 feet in the air. And that was from our knees!!!

Virginia Welford: I first met Warren Jones in about 1987 when I was a member of the SAWARA Outdoor Conservation Committee. He helped plan the first Xeriscape Conference, Xeriscape Contest and the demonstration xeriscape garden at TBG.

I never failed to learn something from him at the meetings and enjoyed his obvious love of plants and enormous amount of knowledge. He always shared information in such a good-natured way. Right after the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden was finished I often went first thing in the morning to water and one day he was there checking on the plants, and gave me an impromptu tour telling me about each plant.

His presentations at the Xeriscape Conferences were always well attended and I never missed them, and I went on several tours of the campus where he showed us the many trees he had planted as tests to see how they would do. He's had a huge influence on Tucson landscapes and I am so glad that I had the opportunity to learn from him.